Y8 - Writing



Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

English Target: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Skills** | **Red**  | **Amber** | **Green** | **Gold**  |
| **I feel confident that I can vary my sentence types** |  |  |  |  |
| **I feel confident that I can vary my punctuation types** |  |  |  |  |
| **I feel confident that I can write a story to a given title** |  |  |  |  |
| **I feel confident that I can use descriptive language devices** |  |  |  |  |
| **I feel confident that I can use speech effectively** |  |  |  |  |
| **I feel confident that I know what AFOREST devices are** |  |  |  |  |
| **I feel confident when asked to write for a specific audience** |  |  |  |  |
| **I feel confident writing in a specific tone** |  |  |  |  |
| **I feel confident that I know how to lay out a letter** |  |  |  |  |
| **I feel confident that I know how to lay out a newspaper** |  |  |  |  |
| **I feel confident that I know how to lay out a report** |  |  |  |  |
| **I feel confident that I know how to lay out a speech** |  |  |  |  |

**Literacy PLC**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Skills** | Red | Amber | Green  | Gold |
| **I can write using a range of sentences for effect.** |  |  |  |  |
| **I can spell most words correctly.** |  |  |  |  |
| **I can use a full stop and capital letter.** |  |  |  |  |
| **I can use a comma.** |  |  |  |  |
| **I know where to use an apostrophe.** |  |  |  |  |
| **I can use a colon.** |  |  |  |  |
| **I can use a semi-colon.** |  |  |  |  |
| **I have a wide ranging vocabulary.** |  |  |  |  |

**Starter - Choose 4 devices and write about the effect of them below.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Device** | **Effect is has on the reader?** |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

Analyse effect using the table and then structure into a creative paragraph using each technique.

**Challenge**

**Writing to Persuade**

**LITERACY FOCUS: Full stops and capitals**

*Language Devices*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Terminology** | **Definition** |
| *Alliteration* |  |
| *Simile* |  |
| *Metaphor* |  |
| *Personification* |  |
| *Onomatopoeia* |  |
| *Fact* |  |
| *Opinion* |  |
| *Repetition* |  |
| *Rhetorical Question* |  |
| *Emotive Language* |  |
| *Exaggeration / Hyperbole* |  |
| *Statistics* |  |
| *Triadic List/ Triples* |  |

***Forms****:*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Letter** | **Newspaper** |
| **Diary/ Journal** | **Report** |
| **Speech** | **Magazine Article** |
| **Review** | **Guide** |

**Speech on Education Example**

Hello I’m here to speak to you today about higher education. I’m sure that after the last year you may be glad to see the back of it. I myself was sat in your position, brain numbed from GCSE revision, sitting through endless ‘motivational assemblies’. Fast forward three years and I can honestly say that I’ve just experienced the best two years of my life due to choosing higher education. Let’s not focus on the present; let’s focus on the end goal, you and your future.

 Higher education comes in many guises. Nowadays it is not just restricted to university but it is taught across many colleges and specialist training facilities. HE is also provided to students on a full and part time basis to suit you and your needs. UK higher education is good. Four of the world’s top six universities are in the UK. The curriculum offered to you is varied as is the range of qualifications available and higher education has something to suit every individual.

Additionally, I have experienced this process first-hand. I was not a student who found school easy. However, my love of sport and my passion for Physical Education gave me enough interest within me to go and look around three universities. I was amazed by the freedom of choice that there was: not only in the modules available but also by the many aspects of independent living. I challenge any one of you to not feel slightly tempted by the possibility of learning about something that you enjoy, living a sociable lifestyle and having the facilities and opportunities to develop many other skills along the way.

Moreover, higher education develops you as a person alongside your subject knowledge. It exposes you to many new experiences. Post-graduation you are instantly more attractive to employers, many more opportunities will be available to you and you will be equipped with the maturity and independence needed for the next stage of your life. Not to mention the fact that you will have many fantastic memories shared with life-long friends.

Education is not only a tool for making money – it can be good for our hearts and souls as well. I urge you to think about what has been said to you today and to take the first steps in visiting university open days to get a taste of university life.

How does this meet the success criteria?

LITERACY FOCUS:

*You are a teen who is trying to inform students of the dangers of social media and overusing computer games whilst persuading them to lead a more active lifestyle. Write a speech in which you will persuade them, you could include:*

* *The drawbacks of relying too heavily on technology*
* *The many benefits of being more active and healthy*
* *The various options available to teens to keep them occupied*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
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| **Audience:***WHO are you writing to? Older, younger, teachers, MPs?* |  |
| **Form:***WHAT type of text are you constructing?* |  |
| **Tone:***What will be the overall mood of your writing? Is it serious? Informal?* |  |
| **3 main ideas:***Use the question to come up with 3-4 main ideas for your writing.**(This is in ADDITION to your intro/conclusion)* |  |
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*Write a formal letter to the manager of your dream job, aiming to persuade them to allow you to undertake a 6 week internship/work experience with them.*

 LITERACY FOCUS:

* *Explain why this is your dream job*
* *Describe your skills and what you could offer*
* *Why you would like the opportunity to work there*

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| --- | --- |
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**Creative Writing Example:**

Heavy black shade had masked the sky for hours, intensifying in colour as each long, drawn-out minute passed by. The visibility of my surroundings was limited to a tiny spark created by my lantern, this tiny spark which had kept me company, offering me some condolence at the back of the jolting carriage. The flickering flame bewitching me with its warmth, studying the flame and its beauty, a beacon of hope in this sea of darkness. I had never been afraid of the dark; the still of night was a beautiful contrast to the lively day time. Nightmares were things created and concocted within the mind. The idea of fear was simply a product of an over-active imagination and I had been instructed to supress the idea of any impossible creatures created in the darkness of my room. My childhood recollections seemed distant from my memory, despite the reality only being a few years prior. A lot had changed since then; I had grown up too fast, and the tragedy that had fallen upon me that had aged me beyond my years.

I had been anxiously awaiting the arrival at my uncle’s house since embarking upon the long journey at the first glimmer of morning sun. I had never met nor heard of this distant uncle, nevertheless I was now to be forced into this stranger’s care. Part of me felt apprehensive, the other half filled with intrigue about where this twisted adventure would lead me. If this visit had occurred under happier circumstances, perhaps more positive, hopeful feelings might have been at hand. In fact my presence would mark a reminder of the grim occurrences that had taken place all too recently. For a brief moment sadness consumed me; I was absorbed with a sense of remorse. My heart beat fiercely against its constricting prison of a ribcage, threatening to break free at any given moment. For a split second, air seemed to have escaped my lungs, leaving me feeling faint and gasping for breath. As much as I tried, I could not escape the memories, the tragic loss that had encapsulated my body and soul since the day of its fateful occurrence.

The carriage jolted me brutally from my thoughts, allowing me to regain my senses and recover my composure. The driver was a reasonably small man who was dressed in full brown attire, with the exception of a pair of black gloves. Throughout the long journey he had only uttered a few abrupt and harshly whispered words, which came about from my futile attempts to initiate conversation. Despite being a summer night, the air had an eerie chill. A thick shield of fog clung to the narrow dirt road, as though crouching in anticipation; an army of trees surrounded the area, peering over the lone path menacingly.

“Well, here we are.” he uttered hastily.

Without response, I lifted my anxious body from the carriage seat, out of the door and onto the narrow road. After carefully lifting my travel bag from the rear, I turned to face the path ahead, the road to a new and frightful chapter in my already grief-stricken life. The road was windy, narrow and uninviting. Darkness covered the sky like a blanket of shadow. The only glimmer of light was the faint outline of the moon, which was mostly covered by the clouds above.

After walking for what seemed an age, I finally got to a clearing, my uncle’s house the main feature standing proudly in the center. I stared up at the windows above me, staring down at their new guest. I took a deep breath, and made my way to the doorway, to await my fate…

How does this meet the success criteria?

LITERACY FOCUS: Apostrophes

Choosing one of the following options, plan and write a creative story.

* *The Decision*
* *Playground*
* *Write about a time you felt insecure*
* *Write a story which ends with the line, “suddenly, it all became clear….”*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Task title:***What are you being asked to do?* |  |
| **Initial Ideas:***What are your first thoughts/ideas?* |  |
| **Characters?** |  |
| **Language:***What devices, vocabulary can you use?* |  |
| **Tone:***What will be the overall mood of your writing?* |  |
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**Report example:**

**SCHOOL OPEN DAY**

**Introduction**

The annual school open day is approaching and there are many things that can be done to make the school appealing to prospective students. By asking the students and parents what they are looking for in a school, I will be able to assess how to attract new students to the school. In addition to this, I will also ask for ideas about how to raise money for the school.

**Attracting New Students**

I questioned the students who had recently moved to the school to find out what attracted them to come here. From the questionnaire I found that most students thought the school had a friendly atmosphere and is neat and tidy. However, the students said it would look more attractive if there was a trophy cabinet. They also said that they would like to see a “Hall of Fame” with pictures of the school’s most successful students. Finally, they suggested having displays of students’ work throughout the corridors to show the kind of work that will be done in school.

**Raising Money**

I questioned parents and students about how to raise money for improving students’ facilities. Some of the ideas were quite ordinary: a sponsored walk, a fun run and a non-uniform day. However, the students have taken part in these kinds of events before and might not be interested in doing them again. There were more interesting ideas: holding a fashion show where parents could pay to see clothes designed and modelled by their children; performing a play which parents pay to watch; and finally, an auction was suggested where local companies are asked to donate products and services.

**Recommendations:**

• To attract new students I suggest the school takes out an advertisement in the local paper that reaches the school’s catchment area. The advertisement should outline the strengths of the school.

• School should organise a trophy cabinet for displaying awards.

• Departments should display students’ work.

• The reception area should have a “Hall of Fame” showing how successful students who have attended the school are.

• For raising money the school should hold an auction. Local businesses should want to be involved by donating services or products. An auction would bring in the most money because it is an unusual event.

**Conclusion**

It would be easy for the school to make a few minor adjustments to the appearance and presentation of each school building to attract new students. It would also be easy for the school to raise money to improve student facilities by holding an auction. However, it would take careful planning and preparation to ensure that the auction was a success.

How does this meet the success criteria?

LITERACY FOCUS: Subordinate clauses

*You are part of a team who wish to make your school richer with nature. Write your proposals up as a report that you will put forward to the Headteacher. In your report, you could include:*

* *What nature is currently on the school site*
* *The benefits of increasing the level of nature*
* *What you would like to include and how you would do it*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
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*Dear Sir or Madam,*

*Sunshine Caravan Number 46*

*I apologise for having to bring this matter to your attention, but having failed to resolve the issues with your stand-in customer service staff, I am really left with no choice. You will notice that I have referred to them as stand-in, because I refuse to believe that the young lady and gentleman I spoke to on the day of departure could possibly be your frontline staff, such was their disinterested attitude. No doubt if I had joined in with their conversation about the X Factor and what Jordan was doing going out with Alex, I would have received better service.*

*Your records will show that my family and I had the dubious pleasure of staying at the above holiday camp during the week beginning 13th August and perhaps with hindsight that should have been an omen in itself. Whilst we were under no illusions about what to expect from Happy Times Camps, with your holidays being so competitively priced, I think that we had the right to expect a certain standard of hygiene, cleanliness and customer service. We also had the right to expect the facilities to be as advertised, none of which panned out. For your ease of reference I have listed below our complaints and observations.*

*• Might I suggest that in next year’s brochure you advertise that your holiday accommodation is only suitable for dwarfs, as the double bed provided could only have been designed with them in mind?*

*• Might I also suggest you furnish your cleaners with a dictionary each so that they can look up what cleaning actually means? Hoovering only the visible carpet whilst leaving half eaten sandwiches, old socks and things I don’t even want to mention, under beds and down the back of the sofa bed, does not constitute cleaning.*

*• You might also wish to refer to your swimming pool as a puddle, that being a more accurate description of its size, unless again it was designed with the aforementioned dwarfs in mind.*

*• Whilst I cannot fault your claim to be situated near to the animals in Park Zoo, I did not expect to be sharing the caravan with some of them. I refer here to the nest of flying ants in the shower light and whatever variety of birds it was who gathered on our caravan roof every morning at five o’clock and held a noisy squabble.*

*I could go on, but I would only end up depressing myself further and I think I have provided enough information for you to be suitably concerned. I think that when you look into these matters you will agree that our holiday fell well short of our expectations and what you claim to provide. In the circumstances I think that a refund in the region of 50% of our holiday cost would not be inappropriate, but I will leave that for you to decide.*

*I look forward to hearing from you in due course.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Mr Jones*

**Choose 5 effective sentences and explain why are effective in complaining about this holiday.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. |  |
| 2. |  |
| 3. |  |
| 4. |  |
| 5. |  |

Write a complaint email about poor service that you received in a restaurant.

**Challenge**

* Using discourse markers

I left my house at 7am. I got into my car and switched on the radio. I can’t stand Chris Moyles and it was his voice blaring out of the stereo at me. I quickly switched him off. The car wouldn’t start at first and tried everything. I switched it off, counted to one hundred, as much to calm myself down as to make the car work, and tried again. It started and I was on my way.

* AS I
* APART FROM
* AFTER
* DESPITE
* ALTHOUGH
* WHENEVER
* Because
* Also
* In addition
* Significantly
* Whereas
* Especially
* For instance
* And
* For example
* Although
* Consequently
* But
* Then
* Apart from
* On the other hand
* Otherwise
* Moreover
* However

**Write 2/3 paragraphs describing your morning so far. Ensure you include the following:**

* at least 5 of the discourse markers from the list above
* a COMMA used correctly with a subordinate clause
* a comma used correctly within a list
* Use 2 of the words from your word bank

Read the semi-colon and colon rule and prepare to teach other students’ the rule. Write two sentences using each correctly.

**Challenge**

**Writing Skills**

**LITERACY FOCUS: Commas and subordinate clauses**

* **Using commas with subordinate clauses.**

COMPOUND SENTENCE

*Two main clauses joined by a conjunction.*

**The boy laughed and the boy ran down the road**

SIMPLE SENTENCE

*One main clause*

**The boy laughed.**

COMPLEX SENTENCE

*A main clause and a subordinate clause separated by a comma.*

**While running down the road, the boy laughed.**

**The boy, while running down the road, laughed.**

**The boy laughed, while running down the road.**

|  |
| --- |
| SIMPLE SENTENCE-Create your own.I love  |
|  |
| COMPOUND SENTENCE- Create your own or adapt the simple sentence below.The athlete jumped really high.  |
|  |
|  |
| COMPLEX SENTENCE- Create your own or adapt the simple sentence below. |
| The window was frosted.  |
|  |
| I can use varied sentences in my writing.  |
|  |
|  |

Using a varied vocabulary

Using a thesaurus, find two other synonyms of the words below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Bad |  |  |
| Important |  |  |
| Disappointed |  |  |
| Sad |  |  |
| Happy |  |  |
| Dull |  |  |
| Angry |  |  |
| Upset |  |  |

Writing an informal letter

33 Keresley Road

Keresley

Coventry

CV6 2FR

04.04.13

Hello Lucy!

As promised, I am writing to let you know how I’m getting on in Spain. I’m currently writing overlooking the most beautiful sunset, whilst the family I am with are preparing dinner. It is paradise!

As expected, the flight was horrific. You know what I’m like – I was struggling not to cry during take off, and even then when I was up in the air, I was overcome with such awful travel sickness. Unusual I know – I never normally get travel sick! I know you’ll be thinking it’ll have been because I was travelling miles and miles away from you and the girls. You’re probably right. I do miss you all a bit!

The family I am with are The Osborne’s. It doesn’t sound very Spanish does it? It’s not! They are from London, which is nice, a comforting reminder of home, and they have only lived in Spain for six years. They’re a family of four; a proper nuclear family. A lovely family though – makes me wish my parents were still together. The mum, dad and oldest daughter are so lovely and so welcoming; they couldn’t have made me feel any more at home. The younger boy, a complete crazy teen – I’m still getting used to him. I’ll tell you about him when I see you!

My first few days have been really relaxed and I’ve honestly enjoyed every minute. I went swimming in the sea and had the most beautiful meal at a tiny, authentic tapas bar just down the road from where I am staying. There is so much to do here, so I am going to make the most of it before I start working. The joys!

Anyway, I’ll be in touch soon so that we can start planning your visit. I can’t wait for you to join me out here!

See you soon,

Alison

LITERACY FOCUS:

Semi-colons

*Write a letter to a celebrity, informing them how they are an inspiration to you. In your letter, you could include:*

* *Reasons why they inspire you*
* *How they have impacted your life*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
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***End Assessment Task***

LITERACY FOCUS:

Colons

Write a speech for a meeting in which you are presenting the views of your year group to Mrs Kelly and the governors about why students should be allowed to wear trainers and jewelry as part of your school uniform.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
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|  |
|  |

**Illustration**

for example

for instance

such as

as

as revealed by

thus

to show that

to take the case of

**Emphasis**

above all

in particular

notably

specifically

especially

significantly

more importantly

indeed

in fact

**Persuasion (assuming the reader agrees)**

of course

naturally

obviously

clearly

evidently

surely

certainly